

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5967

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10444

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: SNAR, RP

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS SUPPORT FOR PHILIPPINE CUSTOMS FY 76

FOR S/NM

INFO: M. WAMPLER, SER/INC

REF: A) MANILA 1985 B) MANILA 1448 C) STATE 14346

D) STATE 257501 E) MANILA A-279

1. CUSTOMS LEADERSHIP IS DEMONSTRATING INCREASING INTEREST IN THE CONTROL OF NARCOTICS MOVING INTO AND OUT OF THE PHILIPPINES (REF A). THEY HAVE ORGANIZED ANTI-NARCOTICS TEAMS UNDER CUSTOMS METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE AND PUBLISHED CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2-74, AS FOLLOWS:

"PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 550 OF THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND SECTION 608 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 34, AN ANTI-NARCOTICS TEAM (ANT) IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CUSTOMS METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE WITH THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

1. UPON RECEIPT OF INTELLIGENCE REPORT FROM CIID, SECURE PORT COLLECTOR'S CLEARANCE TO CONDUCT RAIDS AND SEARCHES OF PERSONS OR PREMISES WITHIN CUSTOMS JURISDICTION ON SUSPICION OF

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HAVING PROHIBITED DRUGS;

2. APPREHEND AND INVESTIGATE PERSONS FOUND TO ILLEGALLY POSSESS PROHIBITED DRUGS WITHIN CUSTOMS JURISDICTION;
3. TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO EFFECT DETECTION AND SEIZURE OF NARCOTICS AND OTHER PROHIBITED DRUGS;
4. PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCHES, DATA COMPIILATION AND TRAINING ON NARCOTICS DETECTIN AND CONTROL;
5. COORDINATE WITH INTELLIGENCE AND OTHER UNITS OF THE BUREAU IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF CUSTOMS LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND PROHIBITED DRUGS;
6. MANINTAIN LIAISON WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT ON NARCOTICS AND OTHER PROHIBITED DRUGS;
7. PERFORM OTHER RELATED FUNCTIONS."

2. CUSTOMS IS ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE VARIOUS TRAINING PROGRAMS. THE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT SCHOOL AT FORT BONIFACIO HAS TRAINED 36 CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT OFFIVERS WITH PLANS FOR ANOTHER 5 IN AUGUST. US CUSTOMS SERVICE RECENTLY COMPLETED SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR 150 CUSTOMS PERSONNEL. FIVE CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE PRESENTLY IN TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES CUSTOMS TRAINING SCHOOL, SPECIALIZING IN NARCOTICS.

3. REF B - THE DEPLOYMENT OF 4 ADDITIONAL TEAMS FOR FY 76 IS AS FOLLOWS: ILOILO, SOUTH HARBOR, BACOLOD AND ILIGAN. WE FEEL THAT THE DEPLOYMENT OF THESE ADDITIONAL 4 TEAMS MAY BE IMPORTANT IN PREVENTING TRANSITING OF DRUGS INTO AND OUT OF THE PHILIPPINES. CONFIDENTIAL INTELLIGENCE NOW INDICATES THAT ZAMBOANGA MAY HAVE BECOME A TRANSIT POINT FOR MORPHINE BASE COMING FROM THE GAWI-TAWI GROUP OF ISLANDS, ORIGINATING FROM THE NEARBY GROUP OF ISLANDS OF BORNEO AND THEN REROUTED TO EITHER DAVAO, ILOILO, BACOLOD OR CEBU FOR TRANSFER TO AWAITING OCEAN GOING VESSELS OF FOREIGN REGISTRY LOADING LOGS, PLYWOOD, BANANA, COLLOIDS, ETC., FOR JAPAN, EUROPE AND FINALLY THE UNITED STATES. FURTHER INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT DAVAO WAS TO BE USED AS A TRANS-SHIPMENT POINT FOR HEROIN THAT WAS CONFISCATED IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA.

4. WE FEEL THAT IF THE PHILIPPINE CUSTOMS CAN BE COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL

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OPERATIONAL IN THE NARCOTICS FIELD AS INDICATED IN THE 1975-1976 PROGRAM (REF E), THEY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE TRANS-SHIPMENT OF MORPHINE BASE AND OTHER DRUGS INTO AND OUT OF THE PHILIPPINES. PHILIPPINE CUSTOMS HAS ORGANIZED SPECIALIZED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT UNITS UNDER THE NATIONAL CUSTOMS POLICE TO BE DEPLOYED IN THE MANILA AREA WHICH COVERS SOUTH HARBOR, NRTH HARBOR, MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, POSTAL OFFICES, AND JOLO, ZAMBOANGA, DAVAO,CEBU, ILOILO, CAGAYAN DE ORO

AND ILIGAN.

WITH THE INCREASED EMPHASIS IN NARCOTICS CONTROL BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, IT IS OUR OPINION THAT RENDERING SUPPORT TO THE PHILIPPINE CUSTOMS WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.
SULLIVAN

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